

Nantucket Planning Board

September 30, 2008

Dear Nantucket Resident:

The Nantucket Planning Board is proud to present the DRAFT 2009 Master Plan, the first such plan to be compliant with Chapter 41 Section 81D of the Massachusetts General Laws. This plan is intended to guide "... the long-term physical development of the municipality" and is an update of the 1990 Goals and Objectives for Balanced Growth, which was approved at the 1990 Annual Town Meeting as a twenty (20) year planning document. It also incorporates themes presented in the Comprehensive Community Plan, a document created by the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission between 1995 and 2001 and not adopted by Town Meeting.

Unlike the past process public outreach was expanded though a series of public forums, questionnaires, ballot questions, and participation at four Town Meetings, at which warrant articles containing the introduction of new zoning concepts for Nantucket were approved. Also, the Planning Board minimized the use of expensive outside consultants, choosing to utilize internal staff and island-based resources.

Although the statute only requires that the Planning Board approve the Master Plan, it is our belief that it is a community document, therefore, it should also be approved by the legislative body of the town: Town Meeting. For this reason, we will be sponsoring a warrant article to approve the plan at the 2009 Annual Town Meeting.

The Board encourages you to review the draft plan during the sixty (60) day public review period beginning September 30, 2008 and ending December 1, 2008. I stress that you should regard the plan before you as a "work in progress" and assure you that the Planning Board is open to your constructive comments throughout this period. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Planning Office, through the web-site at www.nantucketmasterplan.org, presented to staff or Board members though individual discussion or at the public hearings scheduled on November 17 and December 4, 2008 (proposed). If you have any questions regarding the plan please contact the Planning Office for assistance.

Your opinion is very important to us! Thank you, in advance, for your time, consideration and participation. We look forward to hearing your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barry G. Rector".

Barry G. Rector,
Chairman